

WE CLAIM AS OUR INVENTION:

1. An operating unit for an electrophotographic printing or copying system, comprising:

a graphical user interface with at least one of input and output fields with help of which an operation of the electrophotographic printing or copying system occurs;

a user account selectable from at least two preset user accounts; and

a setting of at least one of the input and output fields of the graphical user interface is adjusted for at least one user account.

2. The operating unit according to claim 1 wherein the setting concerns at least one of display, write authorization, language, activation, deactivation, and display manner of the at least one input and output field.

3. The operating unit according to claim 1 wherein at least one of a name of a currently set user account and a name of a user associated with the user account is displayed in a section of the graphical user interface.

4. The operating unit according to claim 1 wherein a name of a user is associated with at least one user account, whereby the selection of the user account occurs with aid of the user name.

5. The operating unit according to claim 4 wherein operating personnel at least one of inputs and selects the user name, whereby the

operating personnel receives access to operating elements of the graphical user interface.

6. The operating unit according to claim 1 wherein the user account is selectable after checking an authentication code.

7. The operating unit according to claim 6 wherein the authentication code is comprised in at least one of data of a storage card, biometric features of the operating personnel, and in a password.

8. The operating unit according to claim 1 wherein a user name is associated with a preset user account type to generate a user account, whereby a preset authorization level is associated with the user account.

9. The operating unit according to claim 8 wherein, depending on the authorization level associated with the user account, at least one of display fields and input fields are deactivated, whereby at least one of input fields, output fields, and menu items are shown deactivated.

10. The operating unit according to claim 9 wherein, given a deactivated display, at least one of the deactivated field and the deactivated menu item is shown in a low-contrast color in comparison to at least one of the surrounding field and the menu item.

11. The operating unit according to claim 1 wherein at least one of the input and output fields are graphical function keys, graphical shift regulators, at least one of input and output fields, check boxes, and menu items.

12. A method for operating an electrophotographic printing or copying system, comprising the steps of:

operating the electrophotographic printing or copying system with aid of a graphical user interface with at least one of input and output fields;

selecting a user account from at least two user accounts; and

adjusting at least one setting of at least one of an input field and output field of the graphical user interface for at least one user account.

13. The method according to claim 12 wherein the setting concerns at least one of display, write authorization, language, activation, deactivation, and display manner of the at least one input and output field.

14. The method according to claim 12 wherein at least one of a name of a currently set user account and a name of a user associated with the user account is displayed in a section of the graphical user interface.

15. The method according to claim 12 wherein a name of a user is associated with at least one user account, whereby a selection of the user account occurs with aid of the user name.

16. The method according to claim 15 wherein operating personnel at least one of inputs and selects the user name, whereby the operating personnel receives access to operating elements of the graphical user interface.

17. The method according to claim 12 wherein the user account is selectable after checking an authentication code.

18. The method according to claim 17 wherein the authentication code is comprised in at least one of data of a storage card, biometric features of the operating personnel, and a password.

19. The method according to claim 12 wherein a user name is associated with a preset user account type to generate a user account, whereby a preset authorization level is associated with the user account.

20. The method according to claim 19 wherein, depending on the authorization level associated with the user account, at least one of display fields and input fields are deactivated, whereby at least one of input fields, output fields and menu items are shown deactivated.

21. The method according to claim 20 wherein, given a deactivated display, at least one of a deactivated field and a deactivated menu item is

shown in a low-contrast color in comparison to at least one of a surrounding field and menu item.

22. The method according to claim 12 wherein at least one of the input and output fields are graphical function keys, graphical shift regulators, at least one of input and output fields, check boxes, and menu items.

23. A graphical user interface to operate an electrophotographic printing or copying system, comprising:

at least one electrophotographic printing or copying system operated with aid of input and output fields of the graphical user interface;

a user account selectable from at least two preset user accounts; and

at least one setting of at least one of an input and an output field of the graphical user interface being adjusted for at least one user account.

24. The graphical user interface according to claim 23, wherein an input field of the graphical user interface is shown deactivated when a display value is not available via an operating state of the printing or copying system, and an input field is shown deactivated when an input is not possible via the operating state of the printing or copying system.

25. A method for operating an electrophotographic printing or copying system, comprising the steps of:

operating the electrophotographic printing or copying system with aid of a graphical user interface with at least one of an input field and an output field;
selecting a user account from at least two preset user accounts; and
adjusting at least one setting of at least one of an input field and an output field of the graphical user interface based on the selected user account.

26. An operating unit for an electrophotographic printing or copying system, comprising:

a graphical user interface with at least one of an input field and an output field with help of which an operation of the electrophotographic printing or copying system occurs;

a user account selectable from at least two preset user accounts; and

a setting of at least one of an input field and an output field of the graphical user interface being adjusted based on the selected user account.